

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on January 25, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Olivia Effertz, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 228, 1/23/2017; HB 263, 1/23/2017

00:00:53 Chair White

HEARING ON HB 228

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:21 Rep. Jim Keane (D), HD 73, opened the hearing on HB 228, Provide funding for sage grouse stewardship.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:31 Tim Baker, Governor's Office
 00:10:22 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
 00:13:37 Dave Galt, Browning, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
 00:15:27 Errol Rice, MSGA Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)
 00:17:23 Alan Olson, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
 00:19:27 Mark Baker, Denbury
 00:23:18 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
 00:25:04 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association
 00:25:46 Glen Marks, Montana Association of Land Trusts
 00:29:15 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce
 00:29:45 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Authority (MWRA)
 00:30:32 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
 00:31:04 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
 00:31:51 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony:None

Informational Testimony:None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:39 Rep. Curdy
 00:33:52 Carolyn Sime, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
 00:34:06 Rep. Curdy
 00:34:18 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
 00:34:58 Rep. Bob Brown
 00:35:24 Rep. Keane
 00:36:04 Chair White
 00:36:51 Rep. Keane
 00:37:10 Chair White
 00:37:15 John Tubbs, DNRC
 00:39:09 Chair White
 00:40:10 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
 00:42:50 Chair White
 00:43:49 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
 00:44:48 Chair White
 00:46:10 John Tubbs, DNRC
 00:48:37 Chair White
 00:50:50 Rep. Keane
 00:51:25 Chair White

00:51:52 Rep. Court
00:52:23 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
00:53:38 Rep. Flynn
00:54:00 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
00:55:14 Rep. Flynn
00:56:10 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
00:57:28 Rep. Fleming
00:57:55 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
00:58:50 Rep. Court
00:59:23 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
01:00:25 Rep. Court
01:00:39 Carolyn Sime, DNRC
01:00:46 Rep. Court
01:00:54 John Tubbs, DNRC
01:03:13 Rep. Court
01:03:24 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

01:04:30 Rep. Keane

01:07:20 Chair White

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a01\)](#)

01:09:17 Recessed

01:17:02 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 263

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:17:31 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 263, Revise analysis of Muddy Creek water rights.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:25:59 Alan Rollo, Sun River Watershed

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:30:49 Brain Bramblett, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a05\)](#)

01:36:50 Bill Schenk, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT\(nah18a06\)](#)

01:39:14 Mike Murphy, Montana Resources Association

Informational Testimony:

01:40:34 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Environmental Law

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:40:59 Rep. Noland
01:41:24 Chair White
01:41:32 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
01:45:05 Rep. Noland
01:45:21 John Tubbs, DNRC
01:46:21 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:47:01 John Tubbs, DNRC
01:49:38 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:50:08 John Tubbs, DNRC
01:51:33 Rep. Fleming
01:52:11 John Tubbs, DNRC
01:53:13 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:53:45 Alan Rollo, Sun River Watershed Group
01:56:32 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:57:11 Alan Rollo, Sun River Watershed Group

EXHIBIT(nah18a07)

01:59:19 Rep. Curdy
02:00:06 John Tubbs, DNRC
02:02:05 Rep. Abbott
02:02:33 Brian Bramblett, DNR
02:03:00 Rep. Bob Brown
02:03:35 Rep. Fitzgerald
02:04:15 Rep. Bob Brown
02:04:28 Rep. Fitzgerald
02:05:28 Chair White
02:06:11 John Tubbs, DNRC
02:06:37 Chair White
02:07:17 John Tubbs, DNRC

Closing by Sponsor:

02:09:25 Rep. Fitzgerald

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:13:37

Olivia Effertz, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah18aad.pdf](#))